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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

ROSS, DANA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3722

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

02/27/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is a Final Rejection in response to the Petition for Revival of an Application Abandoned (which was granted 2/6/08) with amended claims filed 11/15/2007.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 16 is objected to because of the following informalities: The second to last line of claim 16 starts off with the term “wherevy”. This is a typo and should be “whereby”. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-4 and 6-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Pat. No. 5,713,253 (Date et al.).

Date discloses a machine tool comprising at least one linear axis (disclosed in the instant invention as any of the X,Y and Z axes). Date also discloses both a rotary axis (Cs) and a rotational axis (Cw), the rotary axis programmable to move to a location in conjunction with a movement of the linear axis (col. 11, lines 10-30, specifically lines 16-22). Date also discloses a tool holder mounted to a tool rest (on the rotary axis Cs) including a cutting tool inherently defining both a lead and trailing angle with respect to the workpiece wherein the angle(s) remain constant as a vector movement of linear axis is changed. Date clearly illustrates this capability in

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comparing both figures 31 and 33A as well as their respective descriptions in the disclosure of Date (generally between col. 27, line 26 and col. 28, line 21).

Date further discloses rotation of the cutting tool wherein the angle of the lead angle or the trailing angle remains constant by controlling the movement of the rotary axis Cs about an axis that is not the centerline of the workpiece (see fig. 32, for example).

Date further discloses the position of the cutting insert (and therefore the associated angles thereof) can be altered after a roughing pass but before a finishing pass to present a different side of the cutting insert to the workpiece (similar to the instant invention). The various angles associated with cutting are changed during the machining process in embodiments two and three of Date (generally at figures 30-35, but clearest in figures 33A and 33B).

Date also discloses various embodiments with various cutting tools. At least two tools shown (figures 10 and 11) have a nose radius that is substantially concentric with a long axis of the holder.

Date discloses the rake angle of the cutting tool may be modified (changed) during machining, this, inherently, includes placing the rake face perpendicular to the axis of the tool holder (col. 2, lines 26-33).

Date explicitly discloses the use of NC machining (a subset of which is CNC) and since Date explicitly discloses moving at least a portion of the machine tool on the linear axes, it is inherent that the NC is calculating and controlling the machine such that the tool reaches a certain point of the workpiece at a certain point of time.

Date discloses a plurality of retaining configurations through the various embodiments of the invention. Figures 12, 13 and 22 disclose elements that could be referred to as clamps.

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Date sets forth the appropriate method steps according to the apparatus set forth above.

See col. 27, line 26-col. 28, line 21.

Date further sets forth the above elements and discloses the cutting element is programmably movable with respect to the workpiece in all three axes.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 15-19 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art neither anticipates nor renders obvious a method of programming a machine tool or tool holder (Independent claims 15, 16 and 17), specifically wherein the combination of limitations of the independent claims includes the step of using "the lead angle of the cutting tool is used to anticipate interference between the cutting tool and workpiece".

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed 15 November 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant asserts the limitations of the structure including the step of using “the lead angle of the cutting tool is used to anticipate interference between the cutting tool and workpiece” is not found in the structure of Date. Examiner notes that the amended claim language (previously claim 5) is intended use claim terminology. A recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. Examiner notes that the claim is being examined as an apparatus claim. 35 USC 101 addresses claims that are directed to neither a process nor a machine, but rather embraces or overlaps two different statutory classes of invention set forth in 35 USC 101 which is drafted so as to set forth the statutory classes of invention in the alternative only. *Id* at 1551. In *Ex parte Lyell*, 17USPQ2d 1548 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1990).

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dana Ross whose telephone number is 571-272-4480. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Monica Carter can be reached on 571-272-4475. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Dana Ross/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3722